

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 14-26 and added new claims 27-39 as set forth above. Applicants note with appreciation the Office's indication that claims 10-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims and that independent claims 1 and 14 contain allowable subject matter. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

The Office has rejected claims 1-9 and 14-22 under 35 U.S.C. 101 and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Office asserts the claimed invention does not recite a concrete result because the cited claims do not clearly define the output of the invention (the "result"). Additionally, the Office asserts that claim 14 recites "A computer program product ... comprising machine executable code" and that the term "product" is indefinite because it could refer to a program, to computer readable media, etc. Additionally, the Office asserts that claim 14 lacks a positive recitation that what is claimed is a computer readable medium having executable computer code that when executed causes a computer to perform the steps described by the claim limitations.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 14 to recite, *inter alia*, "producing a model of the combination of said plurality of systems by forming said combined system of partial differential equations using partial differential equation systems associated with said plurality of systems" which now clearly claims a concrete result by specifying that the output of the invention is a model of the combination of the plurality of systems. Additionally, Applicants have amended claim 14 to cancel the use of the indefinite phrase, "computer program product" and replace it with, "A computer readable medium" and have also amended claim 14 to clarify that the computer readable medium has, "stored thereon instructions for producing a combined system of partial differential equations comprising machine executable code for which when executed by at least one processor, causes the processor to perform steps comprising . . ." In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-9 and 14-22 under 35 U.S.C. 101 and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

The Office has rejected claims 14-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, asserting the phrase, "computer program product" is vague and indefinite and that all dependent claims inherit this defect. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 14-26 to cancel the phrase, "computer program product" and replace it with, "A computer readable

medium.” In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 14-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

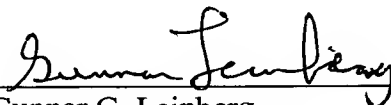
The Office has objected to claims 10-13 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims. In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks with respect to claim 1 from which claims 10-13 depend from, these claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance and no further amendment of these claims is believed to be necessary. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objection to claims 10-13.

Applicants have also added new claims 27-39 which are believed to be distinguishable over the prior art of record and in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the foregoing, applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 7, 2005

  
Gunnar G. Leinberg  
Registration No. 35,584

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
Clinton Square, P.O. Box 31051  
Rochester, New York 14603-1051  
Telephone: (585) 263-1014  
Facsimile: (585) 263-1600

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